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DOD & NRO REVIEWS COMPLETED

6 August 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Allocation of Projects Under the NRO

1. Herewith is the proposed allocation of projects under the NRO. In a protracted discussion this morning with Mr. Vance and Dr. Brown, changes were made in the original text of this paper and as presently written it seems to me adequate. It was agreed that we would leave manned aircraft alone for the moment, which leaves CIA still in possession of OXCART, at least for bargaining purposes. Neither Vance nor Brown wanted to include



Vance agreed that it should be noted for discussion at the first meeting of the Executive Committee.

2. I have talked this all over at length with Bud Wheelon. He takes a rather gloomy view. On the other hand, at the moment he has no very clear-cut alternatives to propose which anybody, including him, feels are reasonably attainable. Both Vance and Brown will honestly try very hard to make this program work. This I believe includes an honest intention on their part to see that CIA is included, consulted and encouraged to participate, both in decisions concerning the policy of the program and in the development, production and procurement of camera systems and other essential ingredients of the program. Vance said that he would issue the most drastic orders within the Defense

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3. Bud feels that there are built-in constraints which will operate to make successful collaboration under this arrangement impossible. For example, he feels that the DNRO will use his authority for systems integration to erode and ultimately eliminate CIA participation. He and I agreed that it would be helpful for him to have a personal talk with Harold Brown with a view to assessing Brown's attitude and obtaining Brown's ideas as to how this would work in practice. I think that this would be a very constructive thing for him to do and have arranged for such a meeting on Monday. In the meantime, Vance is leaving to see his family in Jackson's Hole, Wyoming on Monday and will be away for a few days. I think that a final decision on this arrangement can be postponed pending Bud's conversation with Harold Brown.

/s/ John A. Bross

JOHN A. BROSS
D/DCI/NIPE

Attachment

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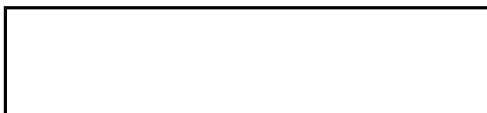
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The following assignments for the development of new optical sensor subsystems are made to take full advantage of technical capability and experience of the agencies involved.

(1) The CIA will develop the improvements in the CORONA general search optical sensor subsystems.

(2) Following the selection of a concept, and a contractor, for full-scale development, in the area of advanced general search, the CIA will develop the optical sensor subsystem for that system.



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The Director, NRO will, in managing the corresponding over-all systems developments, ensure that:

(1) The management of and contracting for the sensors is arranged so that the design and engineering capabilities in the various contractors are most efficiently utilized.

(2) The sensor packages and other subsystems are integrated in an over-all system engineering design for each system, with DNRO having responsibility for systems integration of each over-all system.

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